

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 19 through page 5, line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

These and other features, aspects, and advantages of the present invention will become better understood with regard to the following description, appended claims, and accompanying drawings where:

FIG. 1 is a schematic of an exemplary client/server system for generating value bearing indicia;

FIG. 2 is a schematic of an exemplary general purpose computer adapted for use in a client/server system for generating value bearing indicia;

FIG. 3 is data process diagram of an exemplary process for generating a value bearing indicia using a digital signature algorithm;

FIG. 4 is an exemplary table of relevant data;

FIG. 5 is an exemplary hash table of data taken from the table of relevant data;

FIG. 6 is a second exemplary table of relevant data;

FIGS. 7A-[[7B]]7C are depictions of exemplary value bearing indicia;

FIG. 8 is a software architecture diagram of an exemplary postage system employing a value bearing indicium;

FIG. 9 is a deployment diagram of an exemplary ticketing system employing a value bearing indicium according to the present invention;

FIG. 10 is a collaboration diagram depicting an exemplary ticket buying process using an exemplary ticketing system employing a value bearing indicium according to the present invention; and

FIG. 11 is a collaboration diagram depicting an exemplary ticket redemption process using an exemplary ticketing system employing a value bearing indicium according to the present invention.